SUPPLEMENTAL EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

2. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mark Pratt (REG # 45,794) on 5/15/2009.

3. The application is amended as follows:

1.(Currently Amended) -- An information processing apparatus storing a plurality of format engines each for executing data described in a different format, the information processing apparatus comprising:

format engine managing means for pre-defining common states which define operating states of each format engine in a representation common to all the format engines, and managing an operation of each format engine;

individual state obtaining means, provided in correspondence with each format engine, for obtaining an individual state of each format engine and sending common state information indicating the common state corresponding to the obtained individual state to the format engine managing means; and

operation control means, provided in correspondence with each format engine, for pre- defining a correspondence between the common states and individual states which define the operating states of each format engine in a representation different for

each format engine, and controlling operations of the format engines such that each format engine is in an arbitrary individual state;

wherein for changing a format engine to a predetermined common state, the format engine managing means sends a message including common state information indicating the predetermined common state to the operation control means provided in correspondence with the format engine, and when the message is sent from the format engine managing means, the operation control means controls the format engine such that the format engine is in the individual state corresponding to the common state indicated by the common state information included in the message; and

wherein the format engine managing means manages an operation of each format engine based on the common state indicated by the common state information which is outputted from the individual state obtaining means;

further comprising a minimum resource which is used by a format engine during execution and cannot

be used simultaneously by a plurality of format engines; wherein: when the individual state obtained from a format engine shows an operating state using the minimum resource, the individual state obtaining means outputs common state information indicating a predetermined state to the format engine managing means as the common state information of the format engine; and when the individual state obtained from a format engine show an operating state not using the minimum resource, the individual state obtaining means outputs common state information

indicating a state other than the predetermined state to the format engine managing means as the common state information of the format engine; and

the format engine managing means manages the operation of each format engine such that the common state information of only one format engine indicates the predetermined state.

5. (Currently Amended) -- An information processor according to claim [[4]] 1, wherein: the format engine managing means comprises: activation receiving means for receiving an activation request for activating a format engine; common state obtaining means for obtaining common state information of each format engine from the individual state obtaining means in response to the activation receiving means receiving the activation request; operation stopping means for, when the common state information of a format engine obtained by the common state obtaining means indicates a during-execution state, sending a message for stopping the operation of the format engine to the operation control means provided in correspondence with the format engine; and activation means for, after the operation of the format engine is stopped by the operation stopping means, sending a message for activating a format engine corresponding to the activation request to the operation control means provided in correspondence with the format engine.

8. (Currently Amended) – A program stored on a computer-readable storage medium and executable by a computer of an information processor storing format engines each

for executing data described in a different format, wherein the program causes the computer to function as:

format engine managing means for pre-defining common states which define operating states of each format engine in a representation common to all the format engines, and managing an operation of each format engine;

individual state obtaining means, provided in correspondence with each format engine, for obtaining an individual state of each format engine and sending common state information indicating the common state corresponding to the obtained individual state to the format engine managing means; and

operation control means, provided in correspondence with each format engine, for pre-defining a correspondence between the common states and individual states which define the operating states of each format engine in a representation different for each format engine, and controlling operations of the format engines such that each format engine is in an arbitrary individual state;

wherein for changing a format engine to a predetermined common state, the format engine managing means sends a message including common state information indicating the predetermined common state to the operation control means provided in correspondence with the format engine, and when the message is sent from the format engine managing means, the operation control means controls the format engine such that the format engine is in the individual state corresponding to the common state indicated by the common state information included in the message; and

wherein the format engine managing means manages an operation of each format engine based on the common state indicated by the common state information which is outputted from the individual state obtaining means;

further comprising a minimum resource which is used by a format engine during execution and cannot

be used simultaneously by a plurality of format engines; wherein: when the individual state obtained from a format engine shows an operating state using the minimum resource, the individual state obtaining means outputs common state information indicating a predetermined state to the format engine managing means as the common state information of the format engine; and when the individual state obtained from a format engine show an operating state not using the minimum resource, the individual state obtaining means outputs common state information indicating a state other than the predetermined state to the format engine managing means as the common state information of the format engine; and

the format engine managing means manages the operation of each format engine such that the common state information of only one format engine indicates the predetermined state.

9. (Currently Amended) – An information processor according to claim [[4]] 1, further comprising, as the format engine, Java middleware for executing a Java program and a browser for displaying HTML contents.

Cancel claim 4.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 1, 2, 5-9 are allowable over the prior art of record: the closest prior are of record (Takahashi et al U.S. Patent 5887193) does not teach nor suggest in detail individual state obtaining means, provided in correspondence with each format engine, for obtaining an individual state of each format engine and sending common state information indicating the common state corresponding to the obtained individual state to the format engine managing means; and the format engine managing means manages the operation of each format engine such that the common state information of only one format engine indicates the predetermined state in combination with all the elements of each of independent claim as argued by the Applicant (See remarks 04/08/2009 on page 9 line 4 - page 10 line 10 as well as pages of Applicant's enabling specification pages 6-7 and 32-36.) Takahashi teaches controlling the on and off state of some multimedia device using a multimedia controller. Furthermore Takahashi teaches a multimedia device with a software object which is a resident multimedia controller which performs management of the entire multimedia device. Whereas, as stated above, Applicant's claimed invention states individual state obtaining means, provided in correspondence with each format engine, for obtaining an individual state of each format engine and sending common state information indicating the common state corresponding to the obtained individual state to the format engine managing means;

and the format engine managing means manages the operation of each format engine such that the common state information of only one format engine indicates the predetermined state. So as indicated in the above statements. Applicant's arguments have been considered persuasive, in light of the claims limitation as well as the enabling portions of the specification

5. Any comments considered necessary the applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to NINOS DONABED whose telephone number is (571)270-3526. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 7:30 AM-5:00 PM EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William Vaughn can be reached on (571) 272-3922. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/N. D./
Examiner, Art Unit 2444

/William C. Vaughn, Jr./

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2444